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## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

*To the Honorable, the General Assembly  
of the State of North-Carolina :*

The meeting of the representatives of the people in General Assembly is always a matter of public interest. Clothed as they are with the exclusive law-making power of the State, with no check upon its exercise, when constitutionally employed, save that of public opinion, and with authority also to elect persons to fill high and important stations, not only in the State, but in the councils of the Federal Government, we can well see why the assembling of such a body should excite the liveliest interest. But while this has been usually the case with regard to Legislatures which have preceded the present one, it is emphatically so as to this.

Questions of State policy and duty of very grave importance, it is known, will be presented to you, as to some of which, doubtless, much diversity of opinion will be found to exist.

In a government constituted like ours, these differences of opinion will always prevail, not only between political parties into which a community may be divided, but between the members, even, of the same party organization. Such differences, however, are but the result of that freedom of opinion to which all are entitled, and for the proper exercise of which no one ought to complain.

I doubt not that you will be prepared to give to all matters upon which you may be called to act, a careful consideration,